



1754

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q61610

Toshio MORITA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/878,187

Group Art Unit: 1754

Confirmation No.: 1960

Examiner: Peter J. Lish

Filed: June 12, 2001

For: CARBON FIBER, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

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GROUP 1700

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following amended claims:

13. (Amended) A carbon fiber obtained by a high temperature heat treatment method for carbon fiber which has been produced through thermal decomposition reaction of a carbon source and a transition metal catalyst, serving as main raw materials, which method comprises vaporizing an impurity contained in the carbon fiber, and discharging the impurity through a high-temperature section of a heat treatment furnace while being accompanied by a

21